

6272-0017-0



#15/Rec
9/29/98
Harty
9/30/98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
DETLEF ALBIN ET AL : GROUP ART UNIT: 3724
SERIAL NO: 08/650,709 : EXAMINER: DEXTER
FILED: MAY 20, 1998 :
FOR: DEVICE AND A PROCESS :
FOR COARSELY GRINDING :
HYDROUS POLYMER GELS :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 8, line 4 from the bottom of the page, delete "11" and insert therefor --11'--.

Page 9, line 4, delete "11" and insert therefor --11"--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 14 and 15 without prejudice and insert new Claim 24 as follows:

--24. A device for processing a hydrous polymer gel of variable thickness, said device comprising two rolls which are approximately parallel to and aside each other and which are rotatable in opposite directions from each other and which have between them a nip for the passage of a polymer gel, wherein one roll is formed as a cutting roll which is provided with at least one axially extending cross-cutting element having a cutting edge and with a radially